

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1519

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 4854

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TAGS: SHUM, SOPN, DR

SUB: EL CARIBE LAUDS U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

EL CARIBE, PRESTIGIOUS SANTO DOMINGO DAILY, WHOSE OWNER/DIRECTOR, GERMAN ORNES, IS SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION, COMMENTED AUGUST 3 ON THE POPULARITY AND CORRECTNESS OF U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY: EDITORIAL FOLLOWS IN INFORMAL TRANSLATION: QUOTE: TIME MAGAZINE-WHICH ALWAYS HAD EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON THE PRUDENCE OF THIS (HUMAN RIGHTS) EFFORT-NOW AVERS THAT A SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL REACTION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER DEMONSTRATES THAT THIS POLICY HAS BEEN "A GREAT TRIUMPH" AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA. AND THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT IN A CONTINENT WHERE SO MANY DICTATORSHIPS ABOUND.

"WE ALWAYS SUSPECT THAT THAT WOULD BE THE RESULT OF THE EFFORT-SO GENEROUS, SO NOBLE, AND AT THE SAME TIME SO GENUINELY PRAGMATIC-BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT.

"AND IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN OTHERWISE. INSPIRED BY THEIR LONGING FOR LIBERTY, THE PEOPLES (OF THESE COUNTRIES HAVE ALWAYS MOVED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. AND WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN THE REACTION POINTED OUT BY TIME IS THAT IT MAKES CLEAR THAT WHAT THE COMMON MAN THINKS AND FEELS IS ONE THING, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ANOTHER IS WHAT IS THOUGHT FELT AND SAID-BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES WITH A RIGHT TO SPEAK PUBLICLY-BY THE DICTATORS WHO TRY TO DENY TO THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS THEIR RIGHTS.

"NOT WITHOUT REASON, THE DICTATORIAL GOVERNMENTS APPEAR TERRIFIED AND ENRAGED. AND WITH THIS ARROGANT, HAUGHTY AND OVER PROUD ATTITUDE-WHICH HAS LED THEM TO REFUSE U.S. ASSIS-

TANCE WHICH, IN ANY CASE, WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CONCEDED TO THEM--
THEY PUT IN RELIEF AND CLARIFY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM AND
THEIR PEOPLES.

"THE FICTION THAT DICTATORSHIPS REPRESENT THEIR PEOPLES WHOSE
LIBERTIES THEY VIOLATE HAS BEEN UNTIL NOW A DIFFICULTY FOR THOSE
WHO IN GOOD FAITH DEFENDED IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THE
RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF DETERMINATION... IF A DICTATOR FELT
THREATENED BY THE WINDS OF LIBERTY WHICH MIGHT BE BLOWING AT A
GIVEN MOMENT AND THUNDERED ARROGANTLY, HIS ANNOYANCE WAS
ERRONEOUSLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE NATION HE REPPRESSED. THIS FRAUD
HAS BEEN EXPOSED BY THE TIME SURVEY AND AT A GOOD MOMENT.

"WE KNOW VERY WELL THAT MUCH TIME WILL PASS BEFORE ALL THE
PEOPLES OF THE EARTH ENJOY THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH
A DEGREE OF LIBERTY AND RESPECT FOR THEIR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS.
BUT THE SEED WHICH MR. CARTER HAS PLANTED HAS THE
POSSIBILITY OF BECOMING A STRONG PLANT CAPABLE OF PRODUCING
EXCELLENT FRUIT.

"THE IMPORTANT THING, THEREFORE, IS TO NOT ALLOW THE
ARROGANCE OF THE DICTATORSHIPS, WHICH SO ABOUND IN THIS
CONTINENT AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, TO INTIMIDATE
THOSE WHO TRY TO MAKE A REALITY OF THE PROMISE OF DEMOCRACY
AND LIBERTY WICH, FOR MANY DECADES, HAS REPOSED IN THE
CONSTITUTIONS OF THE MAJORITY OF AMERICAN NATIONS.
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"WE MUST BEGIN TO RECOGNIZE-ONCE AND FOR ALL-THAT DICTATORS
DO NOT REPRESENT THEIR PEOPLES. AND THE SOONER THIS TRUTH IS
ACCEPTED, IS PROCLAIMED AND DISSEMINATED, THE SOONER WILL WE
ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS OF LIBERTY AS WELL AS SOCIAL,
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL PROGRESS". UNQUOTE.
HURWITCH

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